

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:

at least one display device;

at least one input device; and

at least one processor configured to operate with the at least one display device and the at least one input device to, for each of a plurality of plays of a game:

display-select one of a plurality of different levels, each of said plurality of different levels including and for each level display a clue associated with that the level and a plurality of responses to that clue, masked selections, wherein the clue indicates at least one two but less than all of the plurality of responses which are preferred masked selection of the plurality of masked selections responses, and wherein each masked selection is associated with one of a plurality of responses to the clue;

randomly select one of the at least two preferred responses to be a designated preferred response, wherein for a first of the plurality of plays of the game, a first one of the at least two preferred responses is the designated preferred response to a designated clue, and wherein for a second of the plurality of plays of the game, a different second one of the at least two preferred responses is the designated preferred response to said same designated clue,

randomly associate each of a plurality of masked selections with one of the responses to the clue, wherein the masked selection associated with the designated preferred response includes a pay outcome,

display the clue, the plurality of masked selections, and the plurality of associated responses of the selected one of the plurality of different levels,

enable a player to make ~~provide a number of picks of one of the masked selections, to a player, wherein said number of picks being is greater than one, wherein, for each of said picks of one of the masked selections;~~

(a) display a first result if said picked masked selection from a ~~pick of one of the selections includesing a~~ pay outcome and a count ~~against said number of picks;~~

(b) display a second result if said picked masked selection from ~~a pick of one of the selections includesing a move to a next one of the selection levels~~ outcome and a count against said number of picks;

(c) display a third result if said picked masked selection from a ~~pick of one of the selections includesing another pick from the same selection level~~ outcome and a count against said number of picks; and

(d) display a fourth result if said picked masked selection from a ~~pick of one of the selections includesing a move to a next level~~ outcome and does not include ~~without a count against the player's number of picks; and~~

thereafter provide an award to the player based on the any displayed first results ~~pay outcomes resulting from the picks of the selections after the player uses said number of picks.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display a fifth result if said picked masked selection from a pick of one of the selections includesing another pick from the same level outcome without and does not include a count against said number of picks.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of different levels includes a final level, and wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display the including a first result for any masked selection of associated with each of the picks of the selections from said final level which is picked by the player.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one input device and the at least one display device to enable the player to make which includes an additional pick from said determined one of the plurality of levels if levels associated with the third result is displayed.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 4, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one input device to enable the player to make the said additional pick occurs only after at least one pick has been made from each of the plurality of different levels for the play of the game.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the award is additionally based on at least includes one selected from the group consisting of: (i) at least one value provided upon reaching a next one of the plurality of different selection levels; (ii) at least one value provided upon a display of receiving the second result; (iii) at least one value provided upon a display of receiving the third result; and (iv) at least one value provided upon a display of receiving the fourth result.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein an increasing average pay outcomes is associated with each of a plurality of for each subsequent levels are increased.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the award is additionally based includes-on at least one value associated with a next selection level which is provided upon reaching said a next selection level, wherein the at least one value associated with each subsequent level increases ~~has increased values-on~~ average for a plurality of subsequent levels.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the award is additionally based includes-on at least one additional value provided upon a display of a pick yielding the second result, said at least one additional value increasing on average for a plurality of ~~wherein the third results occurring in subsequent levels yield increased values-on~~ average.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the award is additionally based on includes-at least one additional value provided upon a display of pick yielding the third result, said at least one additional value increasing on average for a plurality of ~~wherein second results occurring in subsequent levels yield increased values-on~~ average.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the award is additionally based on includes-at least one additional value provided upon a display of pick yielding the fourth result, said at least one additional value increasing on average for a plurality of ~~wherein fourth results occurring in subsequent levels yield increased values-on~~ average.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, which is provided via at least one selected from the group consisting of: a data network or-and a computer storage device~~medium~~.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 12, wherein the data network includes an internet.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ any results to be displayed for ~~from the~~ any of the number of picks are determined prior to the player picking a first one of the masked selections for the play of the game ~~before the player makes the picks.~~

Claim 15 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:  
at least one display device;  
at least one input device; and  
at least one processor configured to operate with the at least one display device  
and the at least one input device to, for each of a plurality of plays of a game:

select one of display a plurality of different levels, each of said plurality of  
different levels including and for each level display a clue associated with the that  
level and a plurality of responses to that clue, masked selections, wherein the  
clue indicates at least one two but less than all of the plurality of responses which  
are preferred responses to the clue, masked selection of the plurality of masked  
selections and wherein each masked selection is associated with one of a  
plurality responses to the clue;

randomly select one of the at least two preferred responses to be a  
designated preferred response, wherein for a first of the plurality of plays of the  
game, a first one of the at least two preferred responses is designated preferred  
response to a designated clue, and wherein for a second of the plurality of plays  
of the game, a different, second one of the at least two preferred responses is  
the designated preferred response to said same designated clue,

randomly associate each of a plurality of masked selections with one of  
the responses to the clue, wherein the masked selection associated with the  
designated preferred response includes a payout outcome,

display the clue, the plurality of masked selections, and the plurality of  
associated responses of the selected one of the plurality of different levels,

enable a player to make provide a number of picks of one of the masked  
selections from the plurality of different levels adapted to be provided to a player,  
wherein said number of picks is being greater than one, wherein for each of the  
picks of one of the masked selections;

display a "pay" symbol if said picked masked resulting from a pick  
of one of the selections that results in thea payout outcome and a count  
against said number of picks;

display an "advance" symbol if said picked masked ~~resulting from a pick of one of the selections that results in a move to a next selection-level~~ outcome and a count against said number of picks<sub>i</sub>;

display a "repeat" symbol if said picked masked ~~resulting from a pick of one of the selections that results in another pick from the same selection-level~~ outcome and a count against said number of picks<sub>i</sub>; and

display a "pass" symbol if said picked masked ~~resulting from a pick of one of the selections that results in a move to a next selection-level~~ outcome without a count against said number of picks<sub>i</sub>; and

thereafter provide an award to the player based on any displayed "pay" symbols ~~the payouts resulting from the picks of the~~ masked selections.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display a "stay" symbol if said picked masked ~~resulting from a pick of one of the selections that results in another pick from the same level~~ outcome ~~of selections without~~ a count against said number of picks.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the plurality of different levels includes a final level, and wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display the ~~wherein the picks from the final level each result in at least one "pay" symbol for~~ any picked masked selection of the final level ~~determining said award.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display ~~each of a plurality of the "advance" symbols as~~ being associated with the ~~a "pay" symbol and to for determining~~ determine said award based on that association.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the at least one processor is configured to operate with the at least one display device to display at least one selected from the group consisting of: the "advance" symbol, the "repeat" symbol, and the "pass" symbols as being associated with thea "pay" symbol and to determine for determining said award based on that association.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein at least two different levels include at least two different percentages of the masked selections of those levels which result in a display of at least one of the "advance", "repeat," and or "pass" symbols.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein at least one of the levels does not include any masked selection which, if picked, results in a display of at least one of the "advance", "repeat," and or "pass" symbols.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, which is provided via at least one selected from the group consisting of: a data network or and a computer storage medium device.

Claim 23 (original): The gaming device of Claim 22, wherein the data network includes an internet.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein any the symbols to be displayed for any of the number of resulting from the picks of the masked selections are and determined before the player makes the picks a first one of the masked selections for the play of the game.



Claim 25 (withdrawn): A gaming device comprising:  
a plurality of levels of selections;  
a number of picks of the selections adapted to be provided to a player;  
a move to a next selection level and a count against said number of picks associated with one of the selections;  
another pick from the same selection level and a count against said number of picks associated with one of the selections;  
a move to a higher level without a count against said number of picks associated with one of the selections; and  
an award adapted to be provided to a player based at least in part on the levels the player is able to pick from, wherein if the player has picks remaining after picking from a final one of the selection levels, the player can pick from a previous one of the selection levels if the player picked one of the selections which included a move to a higher level without a count against said number of picks.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The gaming device of Claim 25, which enables the player to pick from one of the previous selection levels until said picks are exhausted if the player picked one of the selections with which included a move to a higher level without a count against said number of picks.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The gaming device of Claim 25, which enables the player to pick from a plurality of previous selection levels until said picks are exhausted if the player picked one of the selections with which included a move to a higher level without a count against said number of picks.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A gaming device comprising:

a plurality of levels of selections;

a plurality of awards, wherein at least one of said awards is associated with at least one selection of each selection level, and wherein at least one selection level has one of the awards which is greater than one of the awards associated with one of the selections of another of the selection levels;

a number of picks of the selections adapted to be provided to a player;

an award outcome which results in one of the awards and a move to a next selection level associated with one of the selections of one of the selection levels;

a same level outcome which results in the next pick from the same selection level associated with one of the selections of one of the selection levels;

an advance outcome which results in a move to a next selection level associated with one of the selections of one of the selection levels, wherein if the player obtains an advance outcome, the player can subsequently return to said selection level to make a pick of one of the selections of said selection level; and

a player award based at least in part on the award outcomes associated with the selections picked by the player.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): A gaming device comprising:

a plurality of selection levels;

a plurality of selections in each of said selection levels;

a plurality of awards associated with a plurality of the selections;

a plurality of advances, wherein each selection level except a final selection includes an advance to a next one of the selection levels, and wherein at least one of the advances enables the subsequent pick of at least one selections from said selection level of said advance after at least one pick from a next one of the selection levels; and

a total award adapted to be provided to a player based on the awards associated with the selections picked by the player.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): A gaming device comprising:  
a plurality of selection levels;  
a plurality of selections in each of said selection levels;  
a plurality of awards associated with a plurality of the selections;  
a plurality of advances, wherein each selection level except a final selection includes an advance to a next one of the selection levels, and wherein at least one of the advances enables the subsequent pick of at least one selection from said selection level of said advance after at least one pick each of the selection levels; and  
a total award adapted to be provided to a player based on the awards associated with the selections picked by the player.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of operating a gaming device including providing a plurality of plays of a game, each play of the game operable upon a wager, said method comprising:

(a) — providing a player a number of total picks;

(b) — displaying a clue;

(c) displaying selecting a first selection level of a plurality of selection levels, wherein each selection level includes a clue and a plurality of masked selections responses to that clue, wherein the clue indicates at least one two but less than all of the plurality of responses which are preferred masked selection responses to the clue of the plurality of masked selections, and wherein each masked selection is associated with one of a plurality of responses to the clue;

(d) randomly selecting one of the at least two preferred responses to be a designated preferred response, wherein for a first of the plurality of plays of the game, a first one of the at least two preferred responses is the designated preferred response to a designated clue, and wherein for a second one of the plurality of plays of the game, a different second one of the at least two preferred responses is designated preferred response to the same designated clue;

(e) randomly associating each of a plurality of masked selections with one of the responses to the clue, wherein the masked selection associated with the designated preferred response includes a first type of outcome;

(f) displaying the clue, the plurality of masked selections, and the plurality of associated responses of the first selection level;

(g) providing a player a total number of picks of the masked selections;

(h) enabling the player to pick one of the masked selections from associated with the first selection level;

(i) counting the pick against the total number of picks and enabling the player to pick from a next selection level if the pick results in a first type of outcome;

(j) counting the pick against the total number of picks and enabling the player to pick again from the same first selection level if the pick results in a second type of outcome;

(gi) not counting the pick against the total number of picks and enabling the player to pick from the next selection level if the pick results in a third type of outcome; and

(hj) providing an award to ~~awarding the player based on~~ any the picks of any masked selections~~from the selection levels.~~

Claim 32 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes, if said pick results in the first type of outcome or the third type of outcome, determining the next selection level from the plurality of selection levels and displaying the clue and the plurality of masked selections associated with said next selection level~~which includes providing the player with a number of picks with which to advance through the selection levels.~~

Claim 33 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes determining the next selection level from the plurality of selection levels and repeating steps (b) to (hj) at least once for said next selection level.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes providing the award to ~~awarding the player based on~~ at least one value associated with at least one of the picked masked selections~~revealed via the picks.~~

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes providing the award to ~~awarding the player upon~~ enabling the player to pick from the ~~reaching the next selection level.~~

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes providing the award to ~~awarding the player upon~~ the player picking one of the masked selections associated with ~~achieving the first outcome.~~

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes providing the award to ~~awarding~~ the player upon the player picking one of the masked selections associated with ~~achieving~~ the second outcome.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which includes providing the award to ~~awarding~~ the player upon the player picking one of the masked selections associated with ~~achieving~~ the third outcome.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31, which is provided includes providing steps (a) to (e) via at least one selected from the group consisting of: a data network ~~or and~~ a computer storage device ~~medium~~.

Claim 40 (original): The method of Claim 39, wherein the data network includes an internet.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): A method of operating gaming device including a game operable upon a wager, said method comprising:

- (a) providing a player with a number of picks of selections in a plurality of selection levels;
- (b) enabling the player to use the picks to pick selections sequentially from a first one of the selection levels until
  - (i) picking a first outcome that counts the pick against the number provided and enables the player to pick from a second one of selection levels,
  - (ii) picking a second outcome that does not count the pick against the number provided and enables the player to pick from the second selection level and subsequently enables the player to return to the first selection level, or
  - (iii) until exhausting all picks; and
- (c) awarding the player based on the picks made from the selection levels.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 41, which includes providing steps (a) to (c) via a data network or a computer storage device.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 42, wherein the data network includes an internet.